

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

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| Applicant's or agent's file reference LECA 2 B PCT | FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416) | |
| International application No. PCT/FR2002/003260 | International filing date (day/month/year) 24 septembre 2002 (24.09.2002) | Priority date (day/month/year) 25 septembre 2001 (25.09.2001) |
| International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC H04N 7/10 | | |
| Applicant LEE, Henri | | |

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|---|--|
| <p>1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.</p> <p>2. This REPORT consists of a total of <u>4</u> sheets, including this cover sheet.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).</p> <p>These annexes consist of a total of _____ sheets.</p> | |
| <p>3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <p>I <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Basis of the report</p> <p>II <input type="checkbox"/> Priority</p> <p>III <input type="checkbox"/> Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability</p> <p>IV <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of unity of invention</p> <p>V <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement</p> <p>VI <input type="checkbox"/> Certain documents cited</p> <p>VII <input type="checkbox"/> Certain defects in the international application</p> <p>VIII <input type="checkbox"/> Certain observations on the international application</p> | |

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|--|--|
| Date of submission of the demand 24 avril 2003 (24.04.2003) | Date of completion of this report 26 November 2003 (26.11.2003) |
| Name and mailing address of the IPEA/EP | Authorized officer |
| Facsimile No. | Telephone No. |

Translation

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/FR2002/003260

I. Basis of the report

1. With regard to the elements of the international application:*

- ☒ the international application as originally filed
- ☒ the description:
 pages _____ 1-12 _____, as originally filed
 pages _____, filed with the demand
 pages _____, filed with the letter of _____
- ☒ the claims:
 pages _____ 1-15 _____, as originally filed
 pages _____, as amended (together with any statement under Article 19
 pages _____, filed with the demand
 pages _____, filed with the letter of _____
- ☒ the drawings:
 pages _____ 1-4 _____, as originally filed
 pages _____, filed with the demand
 pages _____, filed with the letter of _____
- ☐ the sequence listing part of the description:
 pages _____, as originally filed
 pages _____, filed with the demand
 pages _____, filed with the letter of _____

2. With regard to the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

- These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language _____ which is:
- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
- ☐ the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
- ☐ the language of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

- ☐ contained in the international application in written form.
- ☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
- ☐ The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
- ☐ The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

4. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages _____
- ☐ the claims, Nos. _____
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/fig _____

5. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).**

* Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rule 70.16 and 70.17).

** Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/JP 02/03260

V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

| | | | |
|-------------------------------|--------|------|-----|
| Novelty (N) | Claims | | YES |
| | Claims | 1 | NO |
| Inventive step (IS) | Claims | | YES |
| | Claims | 1-15 | NO |
| Industrial applicability (IA) | Claims | 1-15 | YES |
| | Claims | | NO |

2. Citations and explanations

Reference is made to the following documents:

D1: WO 01 67757 A (ELYSIUM BROADBAND INC; JEFFERY ROSS A (CA)) 13 September 2001 (2001-09-13)

D2: GB-A-2 296 169 (METROVIDEO LTD) 19 June 1996 (1996-06-19)

D3: GB-A-359 429 (ITT MFG ENTERPRISES INC) 22 August 2001 (2001-08-22)

1. Independent claim 1:

a. Document D3 describes a system for distributing audiovisual signals, including audiovisual signal sources and audiovisual signal receivers (TV1 to TV8), and a central processing and multiplexing unit (22), characterized in that it includes a twisted pair service network (38, page 5, lines 8-9, the baseband signals as provided at the tuner outlets 12 are transported on a twisted pair) for routing the audiovisual signals from the sources to the processing and multiplexing unit, and a twisted pair distribution network for routing the processed multiplexed audiovisual signals from the processing and multiplexing unit to the receivers (20, page 5, lines 8-13).

b. All of the features disclosed in the claim are known

from document D3. Therefore, the subject matter of this claim is not novel, contrary to the requirement of PCT Article 33(2).

- c. However, even if the lack of novelty of the claim were disputed on the basis that certain features are described differently or are not explicitly described in document D3, the fact remains that these differences, which, moreover, are minor, and in view of the very general wording of the claim, could not confer an inventive step on the subject matter of the claim (PCT Article 33(3)).

2. Dependent claims:

- a. In consideration of the teaching of documents D1, D2 or D3 and/or the general abilities of a person skilled in the art, the preferred embodiments defined in the dependent claims do not appear to involve an inventive step (PCT Article 33(3)).